

Duxbury Clipper, Thursday, August 27, 1970

## Postscripts by Jack Post

The Yacht Club cruise is over and so are some of the races; the 1970 golf and tennis champions will soon settle their crowns firmly on their heads, everyone who has not given a party is calling around frantically, or has decided not to bother at this late date. The beach boys and the bob-tailed baby sitters are comparing tans and savings accounts; the office managers look at fewer and fewer empty desks, and lay plans to get some work done when everyone is back next month. In short, the end of the summer is in sight.

So far the weather has given us no hint of impending fall. Only last week the humidity broke all records, and the only way to cool off was to get out on the bay or under the shower. But this week the edges of a couple of hurricanes brushed New England with heavy rains, and afterward the winds from the north brought a crispness in the bright sunshine that drove off the remembrance of sultry July. This week, the first flight of ducks settled into the bay, moving restlessly before the casual sailboats. The baby rabbits nibbling in the flower gardens are big bunnies now, and the young cock pheasants are putting on the bright plumage of their fathers.

Maybe people haven't produced so many bouncy cottontails or such gay feathers in the last few weeks, but they've sure been working along their own lines. Those Friends of Conservation saw the forest for the trees, all right, walked right into the woods, bold as any pioneers, and with not much more than a good idea of which way was north, blazed themselves a trail that looks like a good path to understanding of what we can do about our environment. They decided to teach the children, which meant that they had to learn for themselves; so out everybody went, to the Clapp Laboratories, to the Town Forest, next to study those birds and bees, then to sum up what they learned in a nature fair. Did parents or children have the most fun? Both did, they say; but best of all, a whole lot more citizens, junior and senior, appreciate the real world we live in, and are quite ready to keep on doing something to keep it alive and growing.

The climate of Duxbury must encourage creativity. If anyone doubts that, they should have seen the Art Exhibit in the Drew House not so long ago. Two rooms for the grown-ups, and another for the children, not the walls only but both sides of free-standing panels, were jam-packed with paintings and sketches and woodcuts; with mobiles hanging from the ceilings, and even occasional woodcuts; with mobiles hanging from the ceilings, and even occasional sculptures standing free and bold, and all of this from our own people.

In the King Caesar House last Friday and Saturday the Garden Clubs and the Historical Society produced as fine an exhibit of creative flower arrangement against the background of that lovely old mansion as could be seen anywhere. Like the art exhibit an open competition, this was no amateur show, but incredibly finished and effective. And here again, the children had their chance, and came off with high credit.

Did the drama get neglected in Duxbury this summer? "Hats Off" by 71 young people at the Yacht Club brought cheers as one of the best of musicals. Duxbury did well on the lecture stage, too. Did you hear Dr. Gardner talk about the Pilgrim physicians, Mrs. Brock on wildflowers, or Kathleen Anderson about her birds (she brought a couple with her) at Mnomet, or Chuck Willingham from the Clapp Labs about our Duxbury Bay water? You could get right into our past, too, if you listened to Dorothy Wentworth tell about Clark's Island. You might even have gone over there for the picnic in July and attended the service at Election Rock.

Plenty more beyond just these highlights went on in Duxbury during these summer weeks, just how much no one person will ever know. By and large, they were good things, from a good town, and this fall there will be more to come. If you missed out on anything this summer, look around now. Here comes your chance, fall guy.